



THE
BOSTON SOLAR
C O M P A N Y

The Boston Solar Company, LLC.

Connecticut Division

118 Quinnipiac Avenue

North Haven, CT 06473

HIC.0636963

ELC.0104618-E1

February 18, 2015

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2015 TESTIMONY FROM Susan Kulp, General Manager, The Boston Solar Company – CT Division IN SUPPORT OF [PROPOSED S.B. NO. 730](#) AN ACT PROHIBITING HOMEOWNER OR CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATIONS FROM INTERFERING WITH OR PREVENTING INSTALLATION OF SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEMS AND [PROPOSED H.B. NO. 6435](#) AN ACT STREAMLINING THE PERMITTING PROCESS FOR THE INSTALLATION OF SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEMS.

To whom it may concern:

My name is Susan Kulp and I am the General Manager of the CT Division of The Boston Solar Company is based in North Haven where we employ 25 workers (our parent company is based in Woburn, MA). We have been working in CT since the spring of 2013, officially opening our office here that summer. From the start the permitting process has often proved to be difficult. From town to town the process can be vastly different and often, seemingly, arbitrary in nature. As an example, we have experienced one town where only an electrical permit is required, you walk in with one copy of the necessary documents, fill out a short application and walk out with your permit. The next town requires two hard copies of the plans and engineers reports (both original wet stamps), originals of all other documents **plus** all documents on a disk. The homeowners original signature has to be obtained on the permit application (they will not accept an Agent authorization) and they require both a building and electrical permit to be pulled (thus costly) even though there is no structural work required. To make matters worse, this AHJ uses every one of their 30 days to get an approval back to you. When the CT Energy form came out this seemed to be a step towards a resolution but that has not proved to be a universal form. A standardized permitting form, document requirements and costs for every AHJ in the state would move these projects to completion in a more efficient manner making it easier for the homeowner and for the small business owner.

We have had little call for working with condo or homeowner associations so I cannot speak personally to this issue. That said, I would strongly advocate for approval requirements in these situations that are not held to the whim of an association or board.

Susan Kulp

General Manager

The Boston Solar Company

susan@bostonsolar.us / 860-384-7550